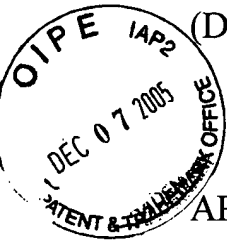


309,161  
(DT-6705)



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT : Armin Herb  
SERIAL NO. : 10/728,252  
FILED : December 4, 2003  
FOR : FASTENING SYSTEM  
EXAMINER : David C. Reese                      GROUP: 3677

Mail Stop: AF  
Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, V.A. 22313-1450

**SECOND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §116**

Sir:

This is a response to the final Office Action dated June 10, 2005, (a request for a third-month extension of time is enclosed herewith) and the Advisory Action dated November 29, 2005.

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-9, 11-12 and 15-17 as being anticipated by the prior art, and indicated that claims 10, 13, 14 and 18 would become allowable upon having been rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The Examiner's indication of the allowability of claims 10, 13, 14 and 18 is appreciated.

Please amend the above-referenced application as follows: